

B / JFW

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q55898

Eiji OGAWA

Allowed: April 5, 2005

Appln. No.: 09/536,315

Group Art Unit: 2121

Confirmation No.: 4621

Examiner: Ronald D. Hartman Jr.

Filed: March 27, 2000

For: QUALITY CONTROL SYSTEM FOR MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC APPARATUS

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the *Allowable Subject Matter* section on page 2 of the Notice of Allowability, the

Examiner states, in part:

As per claims 1-12 and 14-38, the prior art of record fails to teach or adequately suggest a medical imaging system comprising plural medical image input devices, wherein each device has historical data regarding image quality stored therein, wherein a control device stores all of the historical data from all of the devices, wherein the control device allows for the control of the historical data, in other words, the control device allows controls each device so that data regarding the image quality of each device may be controlled, in combination with the other claimed features and/or limitations as claimed.

Also, in the *Reasons for Allowance* section of the Notice of Allowability, the Examiner states, in part:

With respect to at least claims 1, 3, 14-15 and 18, the Examiner of record, after further consideration, agrees with the Applicant's assertion that Jenkins in view of Hoebel in fact does not teach a plurality of medical image input devices holding respective

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U. S. Application No. 09/536,315

histories of evaluation results regarding image quality, and wherein this information is stored by a control device which allows for central control of the medical image input devices.

In response, even though the Examiner has set forth above some of the features set forth in the allowed claims, Applicant submits, to ensure a clear record, that the pending claims are allowable because the prior art does not teach or suggest the unique combination of elements set forth in each of the respective claims.

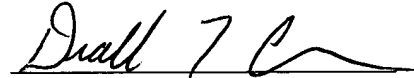
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 1, 2005